

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Michael Mahoney et al.

Application No. 10/579,146

Confirmation No. 8927

Filed: May 12, 2006

Art Unit: 3775

For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR SPINAL  
SURGERY

Examiner: Larry E. Waggle, Jr.

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being sent via EFS Web on the date shown below.

Dated: June 9, 2009

Signature:

(Ronald E. Cahill)

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Dear Sir:

Before substantive examination on the merits, please amend the claims as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 12 of this paper.